The Lookout

October - November 2018

Adirondack Mountain Club — Schenectady Chapter

Dedicated to the preservation, protection and enjoyment of the Forest Preserve

http://www.adk-schenectady.org
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The trail on Algonquin is rocky and steep for two young women making the descent. (See story Page 7)
Photo by Nancy Battaglia/Adirondack Council
New NCNST Jones Hill Trail Completed

The first new section of the North Country National Scenic Trail (NCNST) in the eastern Adirondacks was completed this summer. The three-mile trail goes to the summit of Jones Hill, in the Hoffman Notch Wilderness west of Schroon Lake.

It is expected that the new trail will become popular for day hikes, in addition to serving as a link in the 4,600-mile-long NCNST. That is a decades-old national project being connected piecemeal from North Dakota through the upper Midwest, Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania before touching the Finger Lakes and heading into the Adirondacks.

The new trail branches from the Big Pond trail about 1.1 miles from the Big Pond trailhead on Hoffman Road. From this trailhead, the total distance to the Jones Hill summit is about four miles, one-way, with a climb of about 1,000 feet. Though only about 1,875 ft. in elevation, Jones Hill offers a great view of Hoffman Mountain and the Peaked Hills, with a few of the High Peaks visible on the northern horizon.

The Schenectady Chapter played a significant role in developing this trail by exploring routes to the previously trailless summit and performing volunteer work. This was in cooperation with Department of Environmental Conservation trail workers doing rough clearing of logs and other debris from the corridor. Also in mid-July, an ADK High School Project crew worked on the new trail for a week, followed by a two-week effort by the ADK Pro Crew. Remaining work includes construction of a foot bridge across Rogers Brook and trail marking with DEC disks.

In August, Walt Hayes and Norm Kuchar joined the ADK Conservation Committee in a hike on much of the new trail, which was finished off nicely. The trail building effort was funded by a grant from the National Park Service to ADK. We are now seeking funding to extend the new trail down the north side of Jones Hill to a DEC parking area on US 9 near Schroon Falls.

--Norm Kuchar
Chair, Trails Committee
Annual Dinner Reservation Form
Tuesday October 23 at SCCC Van Curler Room
Wine and Cheese reception 5:30pm ~ Dinner 6:15pm ~ Program 7:15pm

Please indicate number of dinners @ $30 each:

___ Chicken Hunter Style: Sautéed breast of chicken finished with a wild mushroom sauce and tomatoes, accompanied by Brussels sprouts & parmesan risotto.
___ Smoked Center Cut Pork Loin: Roasted with a cider-mustard glaze & finished with sweet potato mash & sautéed green beans
___ Sweet Potato Ravioli: with sage butter & served with a seasonal vegetable

All dinners include an apple and blue cheese salad, coffee, and pear and cranberry crisp dessert. Cost is $30 per person, checks payable to Schenectady Chapter ADK.

Name(s):____________________________________________________ Phone:_________________

Mail this form and your check made out to Schenectady Chapter ADK to:
Stan Stoklosa
8 Archer Drive, Clifton Park, NY 12065
by Monday, October 15

Vote for your 2019 Chapter Board Officers by October 23

The nomination Committee has prepared the following slate of officers for the 2019 Schenectady ADK Chapter Board. No additional nominations have been made by petition, so the candidates are presented for vote in the form below. Ballots must be received by October 23, 2018 to be valid.

Please cast your vote using the column to the right. Clip the ballot and send it to:
Schenectady ADK, Attn: Jacque McGinn, Secretary, 79 Kenaware Avenue, Delmar NY 12054
The new officers will be officially announced in the next issue of The Lookout.

<table>
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<th>Position</th>
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<td>Stan Stoklosa</td>
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<td>Vice Chair</td>
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<td>Mike Brun</td>
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<td>Jacque McGinn</td>
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<tr>
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Fire Tower Challenge Founder Dinner Speaker

Jim Schneider loves books and the mountains; the perfect combination. Jim is a librarian by trade and hiker, biker, skier, paddler by choice. He is an active ADK volunteer for more than 30 years, a winter 46er, Northeast 115er, High Peaks summit steward, lean-to adopter, trail steward and co-creator of the ADK Fire Tower Challenge. The Schenectady Chapter is happy to have Jim as its featured speaker at the October 23 annual dinner.

It gives him great pleasure that so many people have embraced this hiking challenge by exploring new trails in the Adirondack and Catskill forest preserves -- with friends old and new and family members over the last 17 years since the ADK Fire Tower Challenge began. When not in a library, Jim can be found on the trail either backpacking, climbing a mountain, or summit stewarding on the highest peaks.

The ADK's Fire Tower Challenge began in 2001. Little did we know then that we would be responsible for fire tower fever. With only one known cure (go take a hike!), thousands have been afflicted. Jim Schneider will trace the ADK Fire Tower Challenge's progress from inception to today. Fire towers are awesome! New trails to old towers; old towers rebuilt to new again, and tower centennial celebrations! Do you have fire tower fever? Why are fire towers so popular? Let's explore together!

Innings and Outings

Hiker, Paddler Restarts Innings Programs Nov. 15

Ask the guy who's been there.

Our speaker for the Nov. 15 Inning at the Schenectady County Historical Society will be Ralph Keating, who has booted and paddled the Northeast and West for decades and comes with an array of stories and photos from his ventures. His peak bagging includes the Adirondack 46, Catskill 3,500, Fire Towers, Saranac Sixer and Lake George 12ster. These junkets are doubled up with winter and summer credits.

Ralph is a retired environmental engineer from the Department of Environmental Conservation and is vice chair of the Albany Chapter, where he is an active trip leader.

The Historical Society is at 32 Washington Ave. in Schenectady's Stockade neighborhood, with parking behind the YWCA headquarters next door. The program is 6 to 9 p.m. And there will be drinks, cookies and munchies. No program is scheduled for December, but look for January's offering in the next Lookout.

--Sally Dewes
Outings

Continued from Page 3

Saturday, Oct. 13
Young Member Hike – Jay Mountain
Class: B2B
Jason Waters,
518-369-5516 or jwate78@gmail.com
and Amanda Gomez,
518-526-8932 or hurricanes706@yahoo.com
Traverse the entire Jay range with the Schenectady Chapter. Expansive 360 degree views adorn the ridgeline for a 6.9 mile out and back trip. This hike is steep in some spots, but otherwise a real treat to look out on numerous High Peaks. Hopefully the changing leaves will give us some great color!

Saturday, Oct. 20
Lake Durant to Stephens Pond - Northville-Placid Trail
Steward Trip
Class B3D
Roy Keats,
518-466-8544 or royskipaddle@gmail.com
Please join me for another semi-annual cleanup patrol on the N-P Trail, between Lake Durant and Stephens Pond. Side-cutting, drainage clearing, and light blow-down removal are expected. It is an easy introduction to trail maintenance. This is an out-and-back trip of about 6 miles with a nice scenic spot by the lake for lunch.

Saturday, Oct. 27
Rusk Mountain
Class B2B
John Susko,
518-383-1284 or jpsusko@nycap.rr.com
This is one of the Catskill 3500 peaks and is trailless. Depending on conditions we may try to find a view that is rumored to exist to the west of the summit. In any case at this time of year the leaves should be down, allowing for good views of the surrounding peaks on the way down. The distance is 4+ miles, more than half of which is off trail, with ~1500 ft. of ascent.

Saturday, Nov. 3
Pole Hill Pond Thru-Hike
Class C2C
Norm Kuchar,
518-399-6243 or nkuchar@nycap.rr.com
The area near the head of Lake George’s Northwest Bay is a great place to hike, especially in the fall. This year, we’ll do a hike through two parcels preserved by the Lake George Land Conservancy. Starting in the Godwin Preserve on Padanarum Road, we’ll follow a trail to a viewpoint overlooking High Nopit and the wetlands of the Amy’s Park preserve, before continuing

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Outings

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on to beautiful Pole Hill Pond (now part of the NYS Forest Preserve). From the pond, we’ll follow a logging road (mostly downhill) to the trailhead on NY 9N at the head of Northeast Bay. Distance is about 4 miles, with a total climb of about 500 ft, although there is a net loss in elevation of about 700 ft. from start to finish.

**Wednesday, Nov. 7 with rain date Nov. 9**

Mt. Francisco plus
Class C3C
Walt Hayes,
518-399-7482

This is a second try for this trip previously scheduled for July. Total walk of about five miles and ascent of about 700 ft. Mt. Francisco is a bushwhack to an open summit. We will explore a nearby quarry that is a rock climbing destination. There are 14 routes in the quarry named after characters in the 1995 movie Toy Story. (see Adirondack Rock volume 2, page 338) At the end of the day if we have time we will visit the grave of Colonel Loring Peck who served in the Revolutionary War and then settled near Lake Pleasant. About 8 a.m. To 5 p.m.

**Thursday, Nov. 8**

Northville-Placid Trail Hike - Benson to Godfrey Road
Class B2C
Roy Keats,
518-466-8544 or royskipaddle@gmail.com

Come along and add to your sections of the N-P Trail. This will be about a 9 mile hike on a relatively new section of the trail. It starts in Benson, just below the Lapland Lake Ski Area, winds around Woods Lake, crosses several valleys (and streams), passes by Grant Lake, and maybe a backcountry ski trail or two. Nothing really difficult, but a lot of variety.

**Sunday Nov. 11**

Young Member Hike - Big Indian and Fir
10.5 miles, 2200 ft. climbing
Mary Zawacki,
914-373-8733

Join us for two Catskills high peaks. This loop is a great bushwhack with rewarding and challenging terrain. There may be some views between the trees!

**Monday, Nov. 12**

Fir & Spruce Mtns.
Class B2B
John Susko,
518-383-1284 or jpsusko@nycap.rr.com

These are two of the trailless peaks in the Catskills. Fir is one of the 3500 peaks and Spruce, while not over 3500, is one of the Catskill 100 highest. The distance is ~6-7 miles, most or all of which is off trail, with ~1500 ft. of ascent. At this time of year snowshoes, crampons or other traction devices may be needed.

**Tuesday, Nov. 13, from 7-9 p.m.**

New and Prospective Trip Leader Workshop
Place: Pinhead Susan's, Schenectady
Roy Keats,
518-466-8544 or royskipaddle@gmail.com

Please join me and some other trip leaders to find out what is involved in leading ADK trips. We will discuss the Trip Leader Guide, share experiences, and discuss concerns. We are always on the lookout for new trip leaders to bring us to their favorite places.

**Friday, Nov. 30 with rain date on Dec. 1**

Dorset, Vermont town trails
Class C3B
Walt Hayes,
518-399-7482

The Town of Dorset has a variety of trails and we will explore several such as a quarry, woods and views. The distance will be about 5 miles with ascent of no more than 1200 ft. We will meet at 8:30 a.m. and be back by 5:30 p.m.

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**HIKE CLASSIFICATIONS**

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<td>A+1A Most Difficult Trip</td>
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<td>A 8-12 Miles</td>
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<td>B 5-8 Miles</td>
<td>3. Slow</td>
<td>C Average</td>
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<tr>
<td>C Under 5 Miles</td>
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<td>D Easy</td>
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Outings

Other ADK Chapter Fall And Winter Events

Finger Lakes Fall Outing
Join ADK members from all over the state to enjoy hiking, paddling and biking in the beautiful Finger Lakes region October 26-28. We will offer eight outings on Friday, 12 outings on Saturday and eight on Sunday. We have trip leaders from the Niagara Frontier Chapter as well as the Genesee Valley, Cold River, Onondaga and our own Finger Lakes Chapters. Information about the outings can be found by clicking http://adk-nfc.org/ADKFallOuting/index.htm. There will be a Fall Outing Headquarters at the Seneca Lodge which will have outing information and ADK clothing, publications and merchandise for sale.

Iroquois Chapter Winter Outing
Hosted by the Iroquois Chapter, experience cross country skiing or snow shoeing at the annual ADK Tug Hill winter outing January 18-20, 2019 (Martin Luther King weekend). The Tug Hill region is noted for the east's heaviest snowfall, just waiting for you to explore the numerous groomed and back country trails minutes from the club house. (skis and snow shoes not provided).

You will "rough" it at the Mad River Club in Sandy Creek. Full package includes floor space for pad (or cot) and sleeping bag, snacks Friday evening, breakfast and lunch on Saturday and Sunday, and a catered dinner Saturday. For general information and registration contact David White at ccswhite@juno.com. Full registration is $110. Saturday activities and dinner is $45. All but $20 is refundable to Dec. 31. For general information, contact Paul Sirtoli at alexsirtoli@outlook.com.

Whitewater Schedule

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<td>279-1428</td>
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<td>9/30/2018</td>
<td>Esopus</td>
<td>II/III Charles Murray</td>
<td>413-298-4598</td>
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<td>10/6/2018</td>
<td>Leaders Choice</td>
<td>II/III Clarke Darlington</td>
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<td>10/13/2018</td>
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<td>III+ Nelson Miller</td>
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<td>10/14/2018</td>
<td>The Lower Moose</td>
<td>III+ John Banevicius</td>
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<td>11/3/2018</td>
<td>The Tohican</td>
<td>III+ Bob Wright</td>
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Contact State Legislative Chairmen

It never hurts to write to political leaders to make your positions known, and there are a ton of topics active this year for sure. Over time these will include the classification of the Boreas Ponds Tract, decisions regarding parking outdated oil tanker cars along the Boreas River, and budget issues such as how many forest rangers are employed. Your voice counts!

The following are the chairmen of environmental conservation committees for 2018 in the state Senate and Assembly.

Thomas O'Mara
Chair of Senate Environmental Conservation Committee
Legislative Office Building Room 307
Albany, NY 12247
Phone: 518-455-2091
omara@nysenate.gov

Steve Englebright
Chair of Assembly Environmental Conservation Committee
Legislative Office Building Room 621
Albany, NY 12248
Phone: 518-455-4804
ingles@nyassembly.gov
Conservation Report

New High Peaks Plans: Positive, Some Worries

Given the frequently severe trail – and parking – congestion in the High Peaks area, the recent completion of new state management plans is mostly positive, according to Neil Woodworth, Adirondack Mountain Club executive director. Some concerns remain about snowmobile routing and the potential for Boreas Ponds overuse, he indicated in a recent interview, and other issues such as a permit system for trail access are somewhere over the horizon.

Revisions to the unit management plans of the High Peaks Wilderness and the Vanderwhacker Wild Forest were announced in late August by the Department of Environmental Conservation. They were driven both by the acquisition of the Boreas Ponds Tract in 2016, the need to classify it and adjoining tracts, define access and protect the unique area. They also were driven by what for years has been increasing worry about parking and safety along Route 73 - the spine of trail access to the High Peaks - and uncomfortable levels of trail use in prime hiking periods.

Major elements of the changes include closure of the Route 73 trailhead to Cascade Mountain, replacing it with a longer trail from Mount Van Hoevenberg and adding a new trail up that peak to ease Cascade pressure. Additionally, striping of parking areas – a way to limit uncontrolled parking near other Route 73 trailheads - and greater presence of assistant forest rangers to direct use of trails were cited by Woodworth.

The Boreas Ponds and improved access to them are part of the mix intended both to allow the public into that "jewel of the Adirondacks" and to broaden hiking options to reduce pressure on the Route 73 trails. Classifying the ponds themselves and thousands of surrounding acres wilderness was a major victory for environmental groups, which like the ADK remain antsy about this area being the next in the High Peaks to be "loved to death." The adjoining Vanderwhacker Tract is wild forest - far less protected - and provides access via Gulf Brook Road.

Woodworth said, "A positive is that most people will park 3.5 miles from the ponds," the primary parking area on the improved Gulf Brook Road, about halfway to the ponds. There will be much smaller parking areas for permit access and handicap access at a point one mile from the ponds and one-tenth of a mile from the canoe put-in.

A snowmobile trail connecting Newcomb and North Hudson – long sought by town officials as an economic boost – will use parts of Gulf Brook and Boreas roads, though motorized traffic on or around the ponds is prohibited. The road location was another point of conflict. "We would have liked to see the snowmobile trail closer to Blue Ridge Highway, but that would have resulted in more tree cutting." Woodworth said.

The Ampersand Mountain trail shows wear and tear of years of heavy traffic.

Photo by Nancy Battaglia/Adirondack Council

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Ididaride’s New Dirt Course Proves Popular

One of the Adirondack Mountain Club’s major fund-raising traditions registered another success this year, with 394 cyclists cranking out the miles on two courses out of the North Creek base.

The July 29 tour was the 13th annual Ididaride!, which this year offered a 23-mile, mostly dirt and gravel ride touching the hamlets of North Creek, Riparius and Wevertown, with one rest stop. This proved to be a popular change from the prior practice of a 20-mile road ride from Indian Lake back to the park on Ski Bowl Road off Route 28. About 100 riders took this option, according to ADK event organizer Sunday Conine, roughly doubling the participation in the short ride over 2017.

Conine said riders liked the new course. "Everyone we've talked to said it's great. Keep doing it. This is what we want.”

The larger event was the traditional 75-mile ride from the Ski Bowl along Peaceful Valley Road and Route 8 to Route 30, up the long grind to Speculator, continuing through hill and hill to Indian Lake, then back to North Creek on Route 28. That totals an elevation gain/loss of 3,460 feet, which was only slightly less painful this year due to a refreshing breeze, some cloud cover and relatively cool temperature for July. Four rest stops helped. Just shy of 300 riders made the long tour.

While New York cyclists totaled 273, there were contingents from New England states and New Jersey, plus riders from the Midwest, Texas and California. The age range was from 18 – two each male and female – to just shy of 80. The median age was 56, with the largest showing in the 60-64 group, which had 75 riders. Slightly more than two-thirds were male, one-third female.

Gross receipts from registrations was $32,000, Conine said, which supports general ADK purposes.

The Cold River Chapter provides the bulk of the volunteers who take sign-ups and distribute information and packets, cut up fruit and bagels, mix Gator-ade and staff the critical rest stops. Chuck and Gail Helfer provided professional photo service, this year concentrating on the dirt course.

--Mal Provost

Conservation Report

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Railway Update
What is to become of the decrepit rail line from North Creek to Tahawus remains an open question, but now with a new factor. Woodworth reports that OmniTrax - a railroad owner and rail services company based in Denver, CO - is a potential purchaser of the line from Iowa Pacific Holdings, which only this year was beaten back from its plan to store surplus oil tanker cars along the line. One possibility, Woodworth said, is that OmniTrax still sees business potential in hauling mine tailings from Tahawus on those tracks; that was another plan from Iowa Pacific that proved a bust.

Warren County owns part of that 30 mile stretch of tracks, Woodworth noted, and he suggested to the Board of Supervisors that if a new owner entered the debate, it would need a contract from the county. The supervisors could prohibit activities such as storing rail cars. "That would take care of the issue." But if the company wanted to haul rock, it would have to use the very deteriorated rail line along the Boreas River. Other than the brief storage of rail cars by Iowa Pacific, the line has been unused for years, with ties rotted, rails rusted and the rail bed eroded in places.

"I just don’t see how any railroad is going to haul that stone," Woodworth said. But until such issues are resolved, there is also no way forward to use the rail bed as the base for a bike/hike trail, which is a dream of many in the environmental community.

--Mal Provost,
Conservation Chairman
Paddle Program At Grafton Lakes State Park

A new venture in the ADK’s paddling program was a success Aug. 4 when our instructors visited Grafton Lakes State Park to introduce new and eager boaters to basic kayak skills.

People previously not familiar with the Albany and Schenectady chapters paddling activities were introduced to the exciting opportunities. Some had been in a kayak only once before and some paddled for 10 years but had no formal training. All said they gained new and important skills and information, making for a much better kayaking experience; fifteen boaters took part. Getting off on the right foot, or right boat, gear and strokes in this case, is critical for safe and fun paddling.

There was no charge for the program from the chapter volunteers. The park charges for parking and people needing equipment could rent it from the park’s concession, $28 for 2 hours, which was the duration of the program. We set up two classes from 10 a.m. to noon but they had more people interested so we added another class, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Liz Wagner of the park staff said they had a great deal of interest and want to do another program.

Instructors and chapter assistants were John Ozard, Ed Martuscello, Don Orr and Ralph Pascale.

--Ralph Pascale,
Whitewater Chairman

Trip Tales

Henderson Lake Paddle
July 26
After a week of intermittent rain which thwarted outdoor activities, 14 paddlers with canoes or kayaks went the 0.4 miles to the put-in. Although the weather was supposed to be clearing, we were greeted by a deluge which lasted about 30 minutes. Soaked, but cheered by the appearance of the sun, we launched. We paddled up toward Indian Pass, passing a pair of frolicking loons, and into the channel of water that flowed through the northern marsh (Indian Pass Brook). The views of the high peaks and the massive bare rock cliff of Wallface Mt. were the perfect Adirondack setting. As we paddled down towards the Santanoni Brook inlet, we saw a bald eagle. Several of us paddled up Santanoni Brook for a great view of Santanoni, and, on our way out of the brook, had a great view of Mts. Marshall, Colden and Adams. The participants were Marti Townley, Elaine Schwartz, Steve and Kathy Koebrich, Bronna Romanoff, Lauren Albright, Terry Gottesman, Nancy K. Smith, Karen and Richard Wang, Doug Porschet, Hester McCarthy, and leaders Sue and Roy Keats.


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**Trip Tales**

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**Sacandaga River Whitewater**  
**July 29**

Eventful day on the Sacangada! The Sacandaga can be one of the most underrated rivers we paddle. In fact it is our “Go To” river for dependability and a great place to enjoy a beautiful summer day, to practice skills and for some, paddling milestones. Sunday was one of those hitting on all three! We had a first ever hard boat paddle, a first ever combat roll, an experienced paddler who was away from paddling for a time freshen up his skills and a beautiful day on a great surf wave for several regulars. Paddlers included Ed Martuscello, Martin Plante, Ed Cunningham, Allison St. Pierre, Clarke Darlington, Anthony Lamanno, Phil Webstor, Dennis Wischman, Rick Gonzales, Mark Mershon, Pam Scerba, Michael Raley and leader Ralph Pascale.

**Boreas Ponds**  
**Aug. 10**

This trip was rescheduled from July because the DEC was working on the access road. Kudos to the DEC: They did a great job on the road, which is now smooth gravel road with no rocks or ruts to maneuver around. Any type of car can get in to the Black Fly Pond (or Fly Pond but we didn't see any pond) parking lot. The road from the parking lot to the pond is basically unchanged - a dirt road with occasional rocks or ruts, but nothing extreme. My GPS measured 3.84 miles one-way. The pond and the view of the High Peaks was sublime. Highlights included a swim in the pond and several loons, one of which was only about 20 yards from our canoe. Participants were Jan and Marc Limeri.

**Gatineau/Ottawa Whitewater**  
**Aug. 24-27**

A joint force of Schenectady and Albany chapter paddlers ventured north of the border in late summer to enjoy – and in a couple cases cut their teeth on – the big water challenges of the Gatineau and Ottawa rivers of Ontario and Quebec provinces. While these rivers are still rated class III+ -- the limit of ADK sponsored trips -- they are different in character from our regional runs: They are large volume rivers that offer a lot of power, twisting hydraulics and standing waves six to eight feet high. The trip also offers the Gatineau Fest, which draws hundreds of paddlers from Canada, many of whom excel in open boats. Our trip leaders were Sally Dewes and Rick Morse, who demonstrated their characteristic patience, guidance and safety awareness. That was particularly appreciated by big water newbies Ed Martuscello and Mal Provost. Experienced boaters filling out the roster were Anthony Lamanno, Mike Raley, Derek Snyder, Carolyn Wiggin

**Seward Range Hike**  
**Aug. 25**

What started out as a backpacking trip turned into a fun full day. Threats of thunderstorms had our group re-evaluate, and we de-

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Trip Tales

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cided to do all four peaks of the Seward range in one day. We headed in and went up Calkins Brook Trail. Donaldson was the first peak we summited, then headed over to Emmons. From there we headed back to Donaldson and on to Seward. After descending Seward, we headed out to finish our day on Seymour. It was a rather muddy day for some of us! The hikers were: Jill Moretto, Nikki Rogers, and leaders Amanda Gomez and Jason Waters.

Mt Gilligan Trail Maintenance
Aug. 25
We had a beautiful summer day to do the annual maintenance on the short trail to Mt. Gilligan. Our chapter built this trail in the mid-1940s, when the Bouquet River Lodge, just across US 9 from the trailhead, was used as the chapter’s outings base. The trail was in pretty good shape, but we did remove three large logs that had fallen, plus the usual amount of smaller debris. We were at the upper end of the trail by noon, so we enjoyed lunch with a view of Rocky Peak Ridge, Giant, and the Dixes before the mostly easy walk back down the mountain. Thanks go to the trail workers: Mary MacDonald, Ken Marcinowski, Jerry Perregaux and leader Norm Kuchar.

Hudson Gorge Whitewater
Aug. 25
Fourteen paddlers in twelve boats enjoyed a great mid August paddle on the Hudson Gorge. Boaters included Bob Wright and Cathy Darlington in his Paddle Cat, and Allison St. Pierre and Clarke and Mandy Darlington in duckies, Mal Provost in his canoe and the rest of the paddlers in kayaks. It was Mark Merenschon’s first trip on the gorge and he ran the trip perfectly. We celebrated Bob Wright’s birthday with the group singing to Bob at the confluence of the Indian and Hudson Rivers. Other paddlers on the trip: Don Orr, Tom Cronin, Tom Flynn, Ralph Pascale, Anthony Cagino, co-leaders Ed Cunningham and Horst Delorenzi and leader Rick Gonzales.

Bog River Flow Paddle/Low’s Ridge Hike
Aug. 28
What better way to spend a hot day than on the water? Three adventurers set out on this "3 hour tour" on one of our hot and humid summer days. A stiff headwind (of course) on the out-bound paddle kept us cool but made the trip longer. After lunch at the beach by Low’s Upper Dam, we climbed Low’s Ridge to take in the view. It was humid enough that we got hot on the way down and took a welcome swim before paddling back to the car. Surprisingly, the wind did not change direction so we had a nice tailwind that did a lot of the work for us. Participants were Debbie MacAvoy and Jan and Marc Limeri.

Pine Hollow Arboretum and Nature Preserve
Aug. 28
A short walk in this Slingerlands collection reveals trees from the Adirondacks and further away. It was a day that reached 96 degrees but a slight breeze and much shade made for a good outing. A fawn passing through stopped to stare at us for several minutes. Norm Kuchar, Ken Marcinowski and the leader, Walt Hayes.

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**Hudson Gorge**  
**Sept. 1**

Six paddlers in five boats enjoyed an early September day on the Gorge. Even though the day was gray, the warm water made for a fun day. Three paddlers took the left line through the Narrows, which is easier at the low water levels we’ve had this summer. Paddlers were Horst Delorenzi, Tom Cronin, Clarke and Cathy Darlington, Anthony Lamanno and leader Rick Gonzales.

**Haystack Mountain, Paulet, Vt.**  
**Sept. 4**

We did this one last year on a cloudy, foggy day with zero to extremely limited views from the very open summit. This year it was different. It was a sunny 86 degree day with a slight breeze and great views of the local area and the more distant New York and Vermont mountains. We looked down on nearby Granville, with the slate industry and Telescope furniture factory. We were on top for lunch visiting with a couple from Tennessee and a man from Granville. The intention had been to try the mountain from the less used western route but there is no parking off the pavement and there had been no recent trail work so we repeated the route from the east. The trail is well used and easy to follow. Charlie Beach, Mary MacDonald, Ken and Nild Marcinowski, Gwen Medec, Kendra Pratt and leader Walt Hayes.

**Hudson Gorge**  
**Sept. 8**

Nine kayakers enjoyed a cool September paddle on the classic Gorge trip. The release of warm water from Lake Abanakee always makes the fall trips more enjoyable. Most paddlers took the left line through the Narrows Rapids and some of us went over Bus Stop Rapid before the full release arrived. The paddlers on the trip were Horst Delorenzi, Tom Flynn, Clarke Darlington, Ed Martuscello, Bob Wright, Don Orr, Carl Heilmann, Nelson Miller and leader Rick Gonzales.

**Bailey Pond Trail and South End Hoffman Notch Trail Maintenance**  
**Sept. 8**

Five of us did maintenance work on two of the chapter’s adopted trails, the Bailey Pond trail and the south end of the Hoffman Notch trail, both in the Hoffman Notch Wilderness west of Schroon Lake. These trails will become sections of the North Country National Scenic Trail. Since our last maintenance trip a year ago, storms toppled quite a few trees, particularly on the Hoffman Notch trail, creating some nearly impassable barriers. We removed many large logs (diameters up to 12 inches) and lots of smaller branches, brush and snags. Logs that could not be cut with handsaws were reported to DEC, for removal by a chainsaw crew. The trails are now passable by hikers, although skiers would have difficulty with the remaining logs. The trail workers were Walt Hayes, Mary MacDonald, Jerry Perregaux, John Susko and leader Norm Kuchar.

**Eastern Trails Adirondack Guidebook Updated**

The Adirondack Mountain Club has released of the fifth edition of its popular trail guide, *Eastern Trails*, which is part of a substantial reconfiguration and revision of the Forest Preserve Series of Adirondack and Catskill guides. *Eastern Trails* highlights some of the most popular and widely used trails in the region and provides the most updated information about entirely new trails, particularly on new Lake George Land Conservancy preserves. *Eastern Trails* was last issued in a new edition in 2012.

Adirondack Mountain Club Eastern Trails is 304 pages and measures 5 x 7 inches. It includes trail descriptions and detailed directions, as well as distances to shelters, other trails and points of interest. It is organized into nine geographical sections including Northern Lake George and Southern Lake Champlain, Pharaoh Lake Wilderness and Schroon Lake, and Southwestern Lake George and Warrensburg, among others.

Eastern Trails is edited by David Thomas-Train of Keene Valley. Thomas-Train has led canoeing, hiking and skiing excursions in the Adirondacks for numerous organizations. He has served as chair and coordinator of the Keene Valley Chapter of ADK for more than twenty years and he has volunteered for numerous Adirondack scientific and advocacy groups.

Like others in ADK’s Forest Preserve Series, this guide includes grid coordinates that correspond to a National Geographic trail map. Trails Illustrated Map 743: Lake George/Great Sacandaga, a large-format, two-sided, waterproof map created in partnership with the Adirondack Mountain Club, shows each trail described in the guide.

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CHAPTER BOARD MEETINGS: Are held regularly on the 4th Tuesday of the month. No meetings are held in July or August. Any concerns members have may be expressed to any board member listed on the inside front cover, or attend the meetings which are open to the membership. Call a board member for date, time & directions.

CHAPTER DISCLAIMER: People who attend outings reminded that such activities entail a certain degree of danger; and persons participating do so at their own risk. This disclaimer is for both whitewater and regular outings of the chapter.

SCHENECTADY CHAPTER PATCH: This lovely patch (shown at right) can be purchased by mailing a check (payable to Schenectady Chapter ADK) to Mary MacDonald, 27 Woodside Drive, Clifton Park NY 12065. The cost is $3 per patch, which includes the mailing cost.

TRIP LEADERS: If you do not want your trip listed in the local newspapers, call Publicity Chair Richard Wang at 518-399-3108 or publicity@adk-schenectady.org. This newsletter goes out over the internet.

EQUIPMENT RENTAL: The chapter has hi-tech snowshoes and one pair of universal fit crampons available to rent at $5/trip. Call Stan Stoklosa at 383-3066 to arrange for pick-up.

WEBSITE: http://www.adk-schenectady.org — All of the latest information will be posted on the Web, i.e. any changes or corrections. Please review our website and related Internet resources Acceptable Use Policy.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: If you move, you must inform the ADK in order to continue receiving The Lookout. The Lookout is sent via bulk mail, which the Postal Service will not forward. Send changes of address to the Main Club to ensure uninterrupted delivery.

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To join the Schenectady Chapter, send this form with payment to:

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